

The International Newcomer Academy: A Guide For Parents

Helping Your Child Succeed in Their First Year

What is the Newcomer Academy?

A one-year program that helps students learn English, adjust to U.S. schools, and build academic and life skills. Focus areas include English, core subjects (math, science, etc.), and cultural adjustment before moving to a regular high school.

How Can I Support My Child?

Build a Strong Routine

- Make sure your child arrives at school on time every day.
- Set a regular time for homework and reading.

Stay Connected

- Attend parent meetings and events to learn about school programs.
- Use apps or tools provided by the school to track your child's progress.

Encourage Language Learning

- Support your child's English learning by encouraging them to practice speaking, reading, and writing daily.
- Continue using your home language at home—it helps with overall learning.

Ask for Help

- Reach out to teachers or school staff if you have questions about your child's progress.
- Interpreters are available if you need help communicating with the school.

Who can I talk to if my family needs help?

School personnel have access to many community resources. If your student or your family needs help please reach out to your student's counselor so that we can connect you to one of our community resources.

What are the basics I need to know about school?

- Hours: 8:35 AM – 3:00 PM
- Schedule: 9 classes including homeroom, 7 courses, and lunch
- Transportation: Free bus service (confirm times/locations)
- Meals: Breakfast and lunch provided (apply for free/reduced meals if needed)
- Attendance: Call the school for absences; regular attendance is important!

How Can I Help My Child Adjust?

- Talk daily about school experiences.
- Encourage participation in school events and activities.
- Let your child know it's normal to feel nervous.
- Reach out to the school counselor, social worker, Dean, or Assistant Principal for extra support.

How can my student get involved?

- Students can join sports and clubs at their home schools with transportation provided.
- Summer Experience Camps help students meet coaches, teammates, and new friends.
- Check the video bank on the website for how to register for athletics and camps.

How will my child prepare for college or a career?

After completing the program, your child will transition to a regular high school. They will meet with counselors to plan classes and explore college or career paths.

Who do I call if I have questions?

- School Office: 847-718-7937
- Website: <https://www.d214.org/newcomer>
- Please refer to the staff directory for phone numbers and emails of staff members.

We're here to support you and your child!
Welcome to the community!